



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
April 16, 2013

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Council Chairman
Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I, Vice Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Archie Barron, District III
Mr. Reg Dexter, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, Thomas L. Martin County Attorney, County Administrator Scott Moulder and Clerk to Council Elizabeth G. Hulse present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler-Anderson Independent, Dick Mangrum & Norman Cannada -The Daily Journal.

Call to Order: Mr. Thrift called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment Session [related to specific agenda items]:
None at this meeting.

Public Comment Session [related to non-agenda items]:
Mr. C. W. Richards addressed Council questioning if Councilman Corbeil responded to a constituent letter regarding a recent letter to the editor in the Daily Journal newspaper.
Mr. Berry Nichols addressed Council regarding his opposition to a vehicle maintenance fee and issues not within the jurisdiction of the county.
Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding his support for tax incentives for existing Oconee County businesses and his opposition to the proposed location for the jail.

County Council Response to Public Comment:
Mr. Corbeil noted that he did receive a letter from a citizen and responded within a few days of receipt and that Mr. Richards has his permission to obtain a copy of the response from the citizen if he wishes to do so.

Meeting Recess: Mr. Thrift announced a recess at 6:10 p.m.

Meeting Reconvene: Mr. Thrift reconvened the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:
Mr. Thrift led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Minutes:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to approve the minutes from the April 2, 2013 regular meeting as presented.

Presentations to Council

SC Upstate Equine Council: Economic Impact on Oconee County / Ms. Symborski, Chair

Ms. Symborski addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation and handout [copies filed with these minutes] highlighting the economic impact their activities have on Oconee County.

Mr. Thrift thanked Ms. Symborski for her presentation.

Administrator's Report & Agenda Summary

Mr. Moulder briefly reviewed with Council and for the public's benefit specifics related to the following matters before Council at this meeting:

Ordinance 2012-38 – third & final reading

Ordinance 2013-05 – third & final reading

Resolution R2013-07 – first & final reading

Resolution R2013-08 – first & final reading

Discussion / Action Item: Voter Registration Request to Transfer Authority for Municipal Elections

Third & Final Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2012-38 “AUTHORIZING THE SALE, BY OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE “COUNTY”), OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (THE “PROPERTY”), AND THE GRANT BY THE COUNTY OF CERTAIN EASEMENTS AFFECTING REAL PROPERTY, OWNED BY THE COUNTY AND LOCATED IN THE CITY OF WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE “CITY”), TO OCONEE COURTHOUSE VENTURES, LLC (THE “COMPANY”), ALL PURSUANT TO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE ENTERED INTO BY AND BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE COMPANY; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ONE OR MORE INCENTIVE AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE COMPANY FOR THE PURPOSES OF MAKING AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY CERTAIN PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT FUNDS, INCLUDING THE PROPERTY AND THE PROJECT IN A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS OR INDUSTRIAL PARK (THE “PARK”), AND MAKING AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PARK WITH ONE OR MORE ADJOINING COUNTIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCLUDING THE PROPERTY AND THE PROJECT WITHIN THE PARK; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE CITY RELATING TO THE INCLUSION OF THE PROPERTY AND THE PROJECT IN THE PARK AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF PARK REVENUES; AUTHORIZING, RATIFYING AND AFFIRMING ALL PRIOR ACTS OF OCONEE COUNTY AND ITS OFFICERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS WITH REGARD TO THE FOREGOING; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS OR CERTIFICATES NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOREGOING; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”

Mr. Moulder addressed Council briefly regarding the amended documents before Council at this meeting. He specifically addressed the addition of the lease and that all changes resulted from instructions to staff and the attorney as a result of discussions in previous Executive Sessions.

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil to approve **Ordinance 2012-38**.

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to amend **Ordinance 2012-38** as presented at this meeting.

Mr. Thrift called for the vote. The motion passed 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2012-38** on third and final reading as amended.

Mr. Thrift cautioned this and future Councils to not let buildings that have been vacated to get into disrepair.

Ordinance 2013-05 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INFRASTRUCTURE TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND **TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS OF SC, INC.**; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO”

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2013-05** on third and final reading.

Mr. Richard Ellison, Technology Solutions, addressed Council thanking them for approval of the ordinance noting that this project will create a 6,000 sf. building for a tier III high security data center with seven employees. He also thanked Mr. Moulder, Mr. Richard Blackwell, Economic Development Director, and Mr. Russell Johnson, Economic Development Project Manager, for their assistance in moving this project forward.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

[None scheduled for this meeting]

[Note: Public Hearings will be scheduled at or before third & final reading for the following ordinances as required]

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

[None scheduled for this meeting]

*[See Discussion/Action Items for a First Reading in Title Only of **Ordinance 2013-10**]*

First & Final Reading of the Following Resolutions

Resolution R2013-07 “A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING COMMERCE CENTER DRIVE AS AN OCONEE COUNTY ROAD; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Resolution R2013-07** on first and final reading.

Mr. Martin noted that he expects further work to be done regarding matter as the road was built to county standards at the time but those standards have changed. He noted that work will be ongoing with the adjacent industries regarding right-of-ways, etc. and that this issue may come back to Council in the future.

Resolution R2013-08 “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE BY OCONEE COUNTY OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, DEDICATED BY THE WORTHINGTON HYDE PARTNERS, II, LP, FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIED PUBLIC PURPOSES, ONLY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Resolution R2013-08** on first and final reading.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Voter Registration / “Request Transfer for Authority” for municipal Elections

Ms. Joy Brooks, Registration & Elections Director, addressed Council regarding this agenda item. Discussion followed.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2013-10** [*in title only*] “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FOR THE CITY OF WALHALLA AND THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER AND AUTHORIZING AN INTERGOVERNMENT AGREEMENT OR EMBODYING DOCUMENT INCLUDING THE TERMS OF ANY AGREEMENT, WITH EACH; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO” on first reading.

Council Committee Reports

Planning & Economic Development Committee / Mr. Corbeil

Mr. Corbeil read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting discussions that took place at the meeting held on April 9, 2013.

Budget, Finance & Administration Committee / Mr. Dexter

Mr. Dexter read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting discussions that took place at the meeting held on April 9, 2013.

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to direct staff to move forward with the Capital Project Sales Tax process.

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to begin implementing the proposed retiree medical plan changes as presented at the meeting.

Board & Commission Appointments

Aeronautics Commission

Mr. McCall did not have an appointment at this meeting.

Capital Project Advisory Committee

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to re-appoint Mr. David Mead as an At Large Member for a third and final one-year term.

Old Business

Oconee County Website / SCAC Friday Report Link

The Clerk to Council updated Council and the public regarding the addition to the Oconee County website of the South Carolina Association of Counties [SCAC] Friday Report Link. The Clerk noted that she worked with SCAC and IT staff to establish these links which can be found on the home page and the council page for easy reference.

Discussion followed regarding the importance of citizen awareness of issues [Local Government Fund, Election changes, etc.] effecting Oconee County that are before the legislature in Columbia, SC.

New Business

[None at this Meeting]

Adjourn

Mr. McCall made a motion, approved unanimously 5 - 0, to adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council